Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Wednesday 23 Feb 2022 until 23:59 on Thursday 24 Feb 2022

Forecast Issued on Wednesday 23 Feb 2022 at 03:04

Confidence: High for generally unsettled and windy conditions but Friday is looking like the exception as a ridge moves over the UK.

Headline for Wednesday 23 Feb 2022: Very windy with hazardous conditions on the tops. Rain and summit snow later, snow falling to lower levels later in the evening.

Mountain weather hazards on Wednesday 23 Feb 2022

Blizzards
Low Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
No Likelihood

Storm force winds
Medium Likelihood

Gales
High Likelihood

Severe chill effect
Medium Likelihood

Poor visibility
Medium Likelihood

Thunderstorms
Low Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
Low Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Partly cloudy (night)	Light snow	Cloudy	Cloudy	Heavy snow	Light snow
Precipitation probability					
10%	30%	10%	20%	90%	90%

Forecast for Wednesday 23 Feb 2022

Weather: The strong winds will be the main feature but there will be a few bright or clear intervals, mainly in the east. Some patchy light rain and summit snow, but this turning heavy at times from around late afternoon giving a low risk of hail and thunder for a time. Snow level initially above 900m but descending during the evening, coming down to 200m by midnight. Blizzard conditions on the tops during the evening.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 20% in west, 40% in east for most of the day. Becoming 10-20% from mid to late afternoon.

Low cloud and visibility: Patchy cloud cover at first, becoming fairly extensive above 700m but remaining patchy across eastern fells. Mainly good visibility below the cloud base. However, becoming poor from mid-afternoon with cloud descending to 400m in the evening.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/mountain-forecast
© Crown Copyright 2022. All Rights Reserved.

Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Wednesday 23 Feb 2022

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	48/57 SW	49/60 SW	49/63 SW	52/68 SW	44/59 SW	36/48 W	34/46 W
600	40/51 SW	41/54 SW	40/57 SW	43/60 SW	36/52 SW	29/42 W	28/40 W
300	14/39 SW	14/39 SW	18/45 SW	18/47 SW	17/43 SW	13/35 W	12/32 W
Valley	13/34 SW	13/35 SW	20/43 SW	21/47 SW	18/39 SW	15/33 W	15/33 W

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	0/-10	1/-9	1/-8	2/-8	0/-8	-2/-11	-3/-13
600	2/-6	3/-5	3/-4	4/-4	2/-5	0/-8	-1/-9
300	5/0	5/1	6/1	6/2	5/0	3/-2	2/-3
Valley	7/3	7/4	8/4	8/4	6/2	5/1	4/-0
Freezing Level*	900m	1000m	1100m	1100m	900m	500m	300m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

A very windy day, even down at low levels, but storm force winds on high slopes and ridges will make walking very difficult with a chance of being blown over. Rain or snow setting in later in the day.

Forecast for Thursday 24 Feb 2022

Weather: Sleet or snow clearing southeast overnight. A bitterly cold day with bright spells and a few passing snow showers. The showers turning more frequent and heavy from late afternoon onwards but turning to rain down in the valleys. A small chance of hail and thunder.

Maximum wind: West or southwest 25 to 30mph, gusts 45 to 55mph.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 70%, becoming 30% from late afternoon.

Low cloud and visibility: Mainly good visibility but occasionally poor in showers with patchy cloud down to 500m. More extensive periods of poor visibility from late afternoon onwards with cloud down to 400m and blizzards on the tops.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 2 to 4 Celsius, occasionally 0 Celsius in snow showers.
At 800m: Minus 2 or 3 Celsius.
Freezing level: 200m, rising to 400m in evening.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/mountain-forecast
© Crown Copyright 2022. All Rights Reserved.

Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Tuesday 22 February 2022. Location: Helvellyn summit at 12:55. Full report: The majority of the Lakeland Fells up to and including summit level are now free from snow. That said, some significant patches of snow remain. These can be found above 700m, with most above 850m, in sheltered spots and hollows and on steep predominantly east facing aspects – both north and south of due east. Owing to their altitude, location and a summit temperature of zero degrees the remaining snow was either not thawing at all, or doing so extremely slowly. Almost all the snow encountered today was soft and sometimes wet. As such it would only take a marginal drop in temperature (currently forecast) for the snow to harden and become icy. At the top of some snow covered east facing slopes there are some overhangs – ie cornices. Although extremely small, some have cracks so it is best not to step on any such snow covered edges. With a summit temperature of zero degrees and a windchill (what the temperature feels like) of a biting (especially when combined with the hail showers) minus 10 degrees C, full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat & gloves), mountain boots (not trainers) and equipment - including torch, map & compass and the ability to use them - are all essential for those going onto the fells. For those doing routes that necessitate crossing or climbing steep snow slopes – such as both Striding and Swirral Edges which have banks of unavoidable snow guarding their exits - an ice axe is essential and crampons must be carried in case the current soft snow hardens. Hardly any ice was encountered today, but with the ground being very damp it would, again, only take a marginal drop in temperature for ice to form so walkers out on the high fells on Wednesday might want to consider taking microspikes especially considering the strength of the wind as Cumbria is, once again, under a Yellow Met Office Weather warning for wind from 6am on Wednesday until 3pm. Temperature: plus 0.1 C, Maximum wind speed 46.9 mph, Wind chill: minus 10.6 C, Average wind speed: 39.1 mph.

Issued at: 03:04 on Wed 23 Feb 2022

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/mountain-forecast
© Crown Copyright 2022. All Rights Reserved.